

his hard work on this issue—said at the conference's close that: "I must express my disappointment over the conference's inability to agree due to the concerns of one State on language recognizing the needs to establish and maintain controls over private ownership of these deadly weapons and the need for preventing sales of such arms to nonstate groups." Both of these issues were blocked by the United States.

As I stated on the floor last week, I believe that the global flood of small arms is a real and pressing threat to peace, development, democracy, human rights, and U.S. national security interests around the world.

These weapons are cheap: An AK-47 can be bought for as little as \$15 in sub-Saharan Africa.

They are durable and easy to transport and to smuggle across international boundaries.

And, with little or no training, anyone—including children—can use these weapons to deadly effect.

According to the independent Small Arms Survey 2001, small arms are implicated in well over 1,000 deaths around the world every single day.

The goals of the United Nations conference was not to infringe on national sovereignty or to take guns away from their legal owners. And it would not have, in my opinion, even with the inclusion of some of the language to which the United States objected.

The freedoms and rights of American citizens would not have been diminished by a stronger, more forward looking program of action.

As Secretary General Annan stated, the goals of the conference were to address the problems created by "unscrupulous arms dealers, corrupt officials, drug trafficking syndicates, terrorists and others who bring death and mayhem into streets, schools and towns throughout the world."

The conference's program of action represents an important first step by the international community toward developing an international framework for cooperation and collaboration to promote better national and international laws and more effective regulations to eliminate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons.

In fact, the United States has not formally consented to the program for action, so this is a step I urge the Administration to take as soon as possible.

And much more will be needed in the future. Many important issues that should have been addressed by the conference were not and other issues that were did not receive sufficient emphasis.

I am hopeful that, looking ahead, the United States will be able to play a more constructive leadership role as we work towards developing real and binding international norms and agreements on these issues.

#### LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2001

Mr. SMITH of Oregon. Madam President, I rise today to speak about hate crimes legislation I introduced with Senator KENNEDY in March of this year. The Local Law Enforcement Act of 2001 would add new categories to current hate crimes legislation sending a signal that violence of any kind is unacceptable in our society.

I would like to describe a terrible crime that occurred August 28, 1993 in New York City. Two gay men were beaten with a golf club by three men outside a Greenwich Village gay bar. Noel Torres, Joseph Vasquez, and David Santiago were charged in connection with the assault.

I believe that government's first duty is to defend its citizens, to defend them against the harms that come out of hate. The Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act of 2001 is now a symbol that can become substance. I believe that by passing this legislation, we can change hearts and minds as well.

#### HONORING THE HISTORY OF THE U.S.S. CASSIN YOUNG, DD-793

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I rise today to call attention to an important date in the history of a valiant ship, the U.S. Navy Destroyer U.S.S. *Cassin Young*, DD-793.

The ship today is moored with the U.S.S. *Constitution* in Charlestown, MA, and has been open to the public under the custody of the National Park Service since 1981.

The *Cassin Young* was constructed at the Bethlehem Steel Shipyards in San Pedro, CA, and commissioned on December 31, 1943. She was named for Captain Cassin Young, a true naval hero who received the Medal of Honor for valor during the attack on Pearl Harbor and who later lost his life during the great naval battle off Guadalcanal on Friday, November 13, 1942.

From early 1944 until the end of World War II in 1946, the U.S.S. *Cassin Young* was involved in active combat operations. She suffered strafing off the island of Formosa in 1944 and withstood two Japanese kamikaze attacks, one of them causing heavy damage. Despite this damage, the U.S.S. *Cassin Young* was repaired locally and returned to the battle line. The ship was the last destroyer to be struck by a kamikaze during the fight for Okinawa, a battle that was so destructive to the U.S. destroyer fleet. The U.S.S. *Cassin Young* lost 21 crew members and saw approximately 100 others injured in combat.

At war's end, the U.S.S. *Cassin Young* rested in mothballs until the Korean War brought expansion of the U.S. fleet and she was recommissioned on September 7, 1951, in Long Beach, CA. During her second tour of active duty, the U.S.S. *Cassin Young* operated with both the Atlantic and the Mediterranean Fleets and completed a voyage around

the world to the Philippines and Korea. She returned to the western hemisphere via the Panama Canal and joined the Atlantic Reserve Fleet in April 1960.

In addition to her many Service Ribbons and Battle Stars, the U.S.S. *Cassin Young* received the Navy Unit Citation and the Philippine Presidential Unit Citation for her actions during World War II and also was given the Korean Presidential Unit Citation during the Korean War.

In 1978, the National Park Service acquired the U.S.S. *Cassin Young* and painstakingly restored her to the configuration under which she sailed in the 1950s. Ceremonies commemorating the second commissioning of the U.S.S. *Cassin Young* are scheduled to take place on August 18, 2001, when the ship will undertake a towed sea trial of Boston Harbor. Some 500 individuals, including many of the original crew members from both of her tours of duty, will be on board the ship as it tours the waters off Massachusetts' capital city. Former crew members and friends of the ship have created the U.S.S. *Cassin Young* Association, which counts more than 400 men and women among its members.

Through the U.S.S. *Cassin Young*, the citizens of this country and visitors from abroad have the opportunity to experience firsthand an heroic vessel that represents the sacrifices of our Naval personnel during not one, but two, wars.

It is my sincere desire that the U.S.S. *Cassin Young* remain available to the people of this country far into the future so that she and those who served aboard her may continue to receive the honor they so deserve.

#### PRAISE ON THE 11TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

Mr. JOHNSON. Madam President, I rise today in praise of the Americans with Disabilities Act on the occasion of its 11th anniversary. The advances in law, health care, education and technology promoted in this historic legislation over the past 11 years have given Americans with disabilities a new lease on life.

Today, 53 million Americans live with a disability, and 1 in 8 of them is severely disabled. According to the most recent data available, there are approximately 117,701 individuals sixteen years or older living with a disability in South Dakota and 57,233 who have a severe disability. Yet due to the landmark Americans with Disabilities Act, the stereotypes against these persons are crumbling and they are able to lead increasingly integrated and fulfilled lives. The Act has guaranteed that people with disabilities be able to live in the most integrated settings possible in their communities. The Americans with Disabilities Act has also spurred research and improved care for seniors, children and mentally